



Police K-9 Carlo

February 2009

## Crime Rate Continues to Drop

### Community Involvement Key To Success

The Wylie Police Department (WPD) reports that the City's 2008 combined crime rate per 100,000 population dropped by 15% over 2007, representing a 1% decrease in Part One Crimes and a 21% decrease in Part Two Crimes. Wylie boasts one of the lowest crime rates in Collin County.

"Chief Duscio and his officers are to be commended for their outstanding efforts and their unwavering commitment and dedication to the safety of our citizens and our community," says Wylie Mayor Eric Hogue. "While our city continues to grow, crime continues to drop."

Police Chief John Duscio partially attributes the drop in the crime rate to increased community involvement in crime prevention activities such as Neighborhood Crime Watch and our new Citizens Police Academy. He believes that when the community works together in crime prevention the criminals are less likely to stay in business.

For details about the crime rate, go to [www.wylietexas.gov](http://www.wylietexas.gov) and select News > Press Releases > Wylie Crime Rate.

## Top Dog To Retire

Loyal, obedient, friendly, sociable, strong but silent, are just a few of the words Officer Brenda Martin uses to describe Carlo, the City of Wylie's K-9 and Martin's partner on the street. Their story began more than nine years ago when Martin was selected to be Wylie's first K-9 handler.

Carlo was handpicked from Czechoslovakia and the match has been an obvious success, forming one of the most decorated K-9 units in the State of Texas.

K-9's use their keen sense of smell to track criminals, sniff out illegal materials, search buildings, and do other jobs human police officers can't do as well or are too dangerous for a human to perform. The simple presence of Carlo or his intimidating growl motivates many



criminals to surrender peacefully, instead of running or fighting. When a conflict does arise, dogs are faster and stronger than most humans, able to catch a fleeing criminal and clamp down with powerful jaws to apprehend the suspect until other officers arrive.

Each day when Carlo hears the sounds of Martin preparing for duty, he runs in circles, anticipating the day's work. But after more than nine years of service, Carlo is retiring, becoming a family pet, exceeding the average length of service for a K-9 by more than four years.

Martin says it's going to be tough to explain to Carlo that he is not going to work anymore but her new K-9 Caro is. But that day may be more challenging for Martin. When asked how she will feel without Carlo by her side on duty, all Martin could say with emotion in her voice is, "It will be a sad day, a very sad day."

The city will recognize Carlo and release ownership of the K-9 to Officer Martin during the February 24 Council Meeting.

## Online @ WylieTexas.gov

### Food Inspection Scores

The City of Wylie contracts with the Collin County Health Department for routine inspections, education and monitoring of all food facilities including restaurants, day care centers, schools, grocers, mobile food vendors and temporary food facilities. From the homepage select Online Resources > Food Service Scores.

### How Water Works--An Interactive Tour

Follow the path of water from the reservoir to your home, including treatment and delivery. Go to [www.wylietexas.gov](http://www.wylietexas.gov) > Services > Water/Sewer > select "How Water Works Interactive Presentation".

### Map of Wylie Goes Interactive

Quickly view street maps, aerial images, park locations, subdivisions, parcels, Collin County Appraisal District information and much more. Go to [www.wylietexas.gov](http://www.wylietexas.gov) > Services > Planning > Interactive Wylie Map.

### Reference USA

Your library card now connects you to one of the most powerful research tools, ReferenceUSA. Access detailed information on more than 14 million US businesses, 210 million US residents and 855,000 US health care providers from any internet accessible computer. Go to [www.wylietexas.gov](http://www.wylietexas.gov) > Community > Smith Public Library > Services/Databases > ReferenceUSA. Enter your library card account number to log on and start searching.

## Mayor to Deliver State of the City Address

Mayor Eric Hogue will deliver the Annual State of the City Address, Tuesday, February 24, during the Chamber of Commerce luncheon. Lunch begins at 11:30 am at the Woodbridge Country Club. The event is open to the public. Tickets are available at the Wylie Chamber of Commerce, 108-A West Marble Street, or call 972-442-2804. Go to [www.wyliechamber.org](http://www.wyliechamber.org) for more information.



## Fire Station #3 Nearing Completion

Fire Station #3, located at the corner of W.A. Allen Boulevard and Brown Street, is scheduled to be completed and in service by the end of February. The new station, funded by the 2005 Bond Program, will house the departments technical rescue equipment, including the swift water rescue gear. Watch for details on a preview pancake breakfast in March and grand opening festivities in April.

## Olde City Park Renovations Underway

Work is nearing completion on the improvement and expansion of Olde City Park, including a new parking lot, restrooms, sidewalks, landscaping, benches and tables. The recent acquisition of land on the south end of the park along Hwy 78 ensures that Olde City Park will remain an aesthetically pleasing gateway to the historic downtown area.

The improvements and property acquisition were funded through a \$330,000 matching grant from the Collin County Park and Open Space Program and fees received from new development in Wylie. Olde City Park should be ready to accommodate all of your springtime park activities.

## Railroad Quiet Zones Moving Forward

Required traffic counts were recently completed at the thirteen crossings being considered for Quiet Zone status, including, McCreary Road, Springwell Parkway, Country Club Road, Westgate Way, Sanden Blvd, S. Westgate Way, Kirby Street, Marble Street, Oak Street, Brown Street, N. Ballard Ave, Eubanks Lane and Spring Creek Pkwy.

The Federal Railroad Administration, based on the data, will create a risk assessment of each crossing in the coming months to determine the upgrades needed to qualify the crossings for Quiet Zone status. Crossing upgrade work should begin on some crossings in the next six months and quiet zones at several crossings may be established within a year.

## Fun & Learning

### Rita & Truett Smith Public Library

800 Thomas Street

972-442-7566

[www.WylieTexas.gov](http://www.WylieTexas.gov) > Community > Smith Public Library

Hours:	Mon., Tue. & Thur.	Noon - 8 pm
	Wednesday	9 am - 6 pm
	Friday	11 am - 5 pm
	Saturday	9 am - 4 pm
	Sunday	Closed

### All Events Are Free and Open to the Public

#### Meet Kristine Kahanek, February 21, 10 am

Channel 11 meteorologist and author of the book *Katie and the Magic Umbrella: A Stormy Adventure*, will autograph copies of her new children's book. Books will be available for purchase with a portion of the proceeds to benefit the Library.

#### Storytime, Every Wednesday

Join us for books, flannel stories, finger plays, songs and crafts.

Big Kids (ages 3-5), 9 am & 11 am

Wee Read (Babies & Toddlers), 10 am

Feb. 25 - How Do You Feel?

March 4 - Mice Are Nice

March 11 - Lucky Me

March 18 - Spring Has Spring

March 25 - Around the World

#### BeTween Book & Movie Club, February 26, 6:30 pm

4th and 5th graders are invited to talk about their favorite book or movie.

#### Wagging Tales, March 5, 6:30 pm

Practice reading aloud to Abby the Collie. Tickets are required and will be distributed on a first come first served basis the evening of the program.

#### Teen Tech Week, March 9 - 13, 3:15 pm - 5:00 pm

Join us in the Teen Center for Rock Band 1 & 2, techie crafts, manga drawing and anime.

#### Mummy Madness, March 9, 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Join Dallas Museum of Art Storyteller Ann Marie Newman as she brings ancient Egypt to life.

#### Teen Library Council Meeting, Thursday, March 12, 5 pm, Grades 6-12

Discuss teen programs, give feedback on the teen collection and win prizes.

#### Fourth Monday Book Club, March 23, 6:30 pm

Adults 18 and up are invited to a book discussion on *The Blue Star* by Tony Earley.

#### BeTween Book & Movie Club, March 26, 6:30 pm

4th and 5th graders are invited to discuss *The Wizard of Oz*. Enjoy snacks and watch scenes from the movie. Free books are available for the first 15 kids that sign up!